

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application and the courtesy extended during the telephonic calls with Kevin Pumm, Registration No. 49,046. Claims 1 through 26 are now pending in the application.

Applicants have adopted the Examiner's suggestions and amended the independent claims consistent therewith. During a telephone call on November 18, 2004 with Kevin Pumm, the Examiner indicated that the above amendments, which adopt the Examiner's suggestions, would place each independent claim in a condition for allowance. As such, Applicants believe all pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 102 rejection of claims 1-3, 5-15, 22-23, and 25-26 and the section 103 rejection of claims 4, 16-21, and 24.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned directly at (314) 726-7502.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Anthony Fussner, Reg. No. 47,582

Dated: December 1, 2004

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[AGF/dmkd]